

REMARKS

Claims 12-21 are pending in the present application. Claim 12-19 have been canceled and claims 22-30 have been added, leaving claims 20-30 for consideration upon entry of the present amendment. Reconsideration and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 12, 14-16, 18, 20, and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over any Welin-Berger (GB 952038) in view of Bonne et al. (US 4,844,914) ("Bonne"), Romagnoli (US 4,828,851) and Irmischer (US 3,053,665), further in view of Welin-Berger (U.S. 3,223,229). Claim 13 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the references as applied to claim 12, and further in view of Rambold (US 3,899,599). Claim 17 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. as being unpatentable over the references as applied to claim 12, and further in view of Tremaine (GB 24,151-12/1904). Claim 19 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the references as applied to claim 12, and further in view of Barnett (US 2,791,505) and Graves (US 3,914,439).

For an obviousness rejection to be proper, the Examiner must meet the burden of establishing that all elements of the invention are disclosed in the prior art; that the prior art relied upon, coupled with knowledge generally available in the art at the time of the invention, must contain some suggestion or incentive that would have motivated the skilled artisan to modify a reference or combined references; and that the proposed modification of the prior art must have had a reasonable expectation of success, determined from the vantage point of the skilled artisan at the time the invention was made. *In re Fine*, 5 U.S.P.Q.2d 1596, 1598 (Fed. Cir. 1988); *In Re Wilson*, 165 U.S.P.Q. 494, 496 (C.C.P.A. 1970); *Amgen v. Chugai Pharmaceuticals Co.*, 927 U.S.P.Q.2d, 1016, 1023 (Fed. Cir. 1996).

Claims 12-19 have been canceled. Claim 20 includes the following limitations: "forming a suspension unit of a sheet-like carrier material * * * connecting simultaneously said at least two chambers at said top side to said suspension unit such that said chambers are turned away from said grasping area, wherein said at least two chambers are connected to opposite sides of the suspension unit at a common edge, so that the suspension unit is lying between said at least two chambers" Claim 21 includes the following limitations: "forming

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a suspension unit of a sheet-like carrier material * * * connecting a first of said at least two chambers at a first top side to said suspension unit; connecting a second of said at least two chambers at a second top side to said suspension unit and to said first top side to form a common edge of said at least two chambers; * * * wherein said at least two chambers are connected to opposite sides of the suspension unit at a common edge, so that the suspension unit is lying between said at least chambers." Claim 22 includes the following limitation: "said chambers each having a top side and being connected at respective top sides to form a common edge; and a suspension unit made of sheet like carrier material, said suspension unit having a grasping area, wherein said chambers are connected to opposite sides of the suspension unit at the common edge, so that the suspension unit is lying between said chambers." None of the references teach or suggest these limitations.

In essence, each of the claims requires that the top sides of the chambers are connected at a common edge and that the chambers are connected to the opposite sides of a suspension unit at the common edge. Moreover, all of the independent claims require that the suspension unit is a sheet-like carrier material. Welin-Berger does not teach or suggest a suspension unit of sheet like material and connecting the chambers on opposite sides of the sheet-like material.

Welin-Berger teaches the following: "In the embodiment shown in Figs. 3 to 5 the bag is sub-divided into two compartments 1a and 1b each of which has walls of fabric or network interconnected at one edge where a flap 2 with a string according to Fig. 1 may be provided." See page 3, lines 20-25. Essentially, Welin-Berger teaches that the two compartments are attached together at the string. See Figures 2 and 5. Moreover, Welin-Berger requires both the flap and the string. Welin-Berger does not teach or suggest that the chambers are connected to opposite sides of a sheet like suspension unit at the common edge so that the suspension unit is lying between the chambers. Moreover, no other reference cures that deficiency. Thus, claims 20-22 are patentable over the cited references. Because claims 23-29 include all of the limitations of claim 22, claims 23-29 are patentable over the cited references. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections be withdrawn.

In addition, Applicants have also added claim 30. This claim further requires that

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bottom sides of the chambers are releasably connected to each other. None of the references teaches that both the top sides of the chambers are connected at a common edge and that the bottom sides of the chambers are releasably connected to each other.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the instant application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this application be allowed and a Notice of Allowance issued. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference with Applicants' attorneys would be advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is cordially requested to telephone the undersigned.

In the event the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks deems additional fees to be due in connection with this application, Applicants' attorney hereby authorizes that such fee be charged to Deposit Account No. 06-1133.

Respectfully submitted,

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